A SACRED MYSTERY SCHOOL FOR WOMEN

TENDING THE SACRED FEMALE FIRE

1989/1990

EAST COAST

WITH

DIANE MARIECHILD
SHULI GOODMAN
EDWINA LEE TYLER
ROBERTA J. STOKES
BONNIE NOVAKOV-LAWLOR

KEEPERS OF THE FLAME

Before it was written,
knowledge was whispered
from mother to daughter.
Passed through the motherline
as cultures waxed and waned.

Before it was written,
there were Keepers of the Flame.
Drawn to the song of mystery,
Women who lived apart.

Before it was written,
women were Guardians of the Temples,
Singers of Sacred Songs,
Story-tellers, Visionaries, Ritual-makers,
Warriors, Dancers, Healers,
whose medicine was strong.

We are each born of Woman,
rooted to Earth.
A Double spiral,
dancing knowledge in our genes.
Ancient wisdom burns
within our bellies.
To recall our star connection,
two tasks we celebrate.
One spiral turns to connect,
the other to individuate.

Women hold the key to remembering.
Let us recall the sacred teachings.
Nurture, heal and strengthen.
Return balance to Self and Earth.
Rebuild the sacred altar
in the Temple of the Heart.
Become a Keeper of the Flame.

CREATING A COMMUNITY OF POWERFUL WOMEN

★Join us in celebrating an ancient women's lineage committed to the rekindling of the sacred wisdom flame in all Earth's children. The intention of the Women's Sacred Mystery School is to reconnect us with the divine feminine which has been passed from mother to daughter since the beginning of time.

★The School, founded in September 1988, by Diane Mariechild and Shuli Goodman, is the fullfillment of a life-long dream. The vision is to create a land based center for women which has at its core a strong, clear spiritual practice. Working with that practice as the foundation, we can explore the MYSTERY of life.

★The spiritual path of awakening for women requires different tasks then for men. Women have a natural affinity for working with vision and energy. Our spiritual path must be one that speaks to the diversity of our experience as women. The teachings must be applicable to our daily lives, integrating both the intra-psychic and the political.

★To tend the sacred female fire requires dedication, discipline, courage, and kindness. We will learn to play the instrument of our own body/mind. With meditation, movement, music, art and psychospiritual process, we become linked to the dynamic energizing female principle.In the creation of a safe, supportive community we may again nurture this sacred fire, returning balance to ourselves and Mother Earth.

KEEPERS of the FLAME

1989-1990 NINE MONTH TRAINING PROGRAM

★**Keepers of the Flame**, extending over a nine month period, consists of six weekend intensives at a residential center. Between class meetings participants will meet bi-weekly in small regional groups for meditation, study and discussion. Regional groups will also participate in a community service project of their choice. There will be tasks to complete in the interim, such as decorating masks and creating other ritual objects. Students will also receive reading lists and hand-out study materials.

★The spiritual practice of meditation and movement, which is the foundation of the school, is described in Diane's book, *The Inner Dance*. The meditation develops concentration and awareness by working with both the breath, and the double spiral of Earth and Sky energy. The exercises are based on the flow of Earth and Sky energy, and its manifestation in the body. Through meditation and movemement we learn correct alignment and develop a strong feeling awareness of body/mind.

★All weekends will begin Friday evening with dinner and close Sunday, mid-afternoon with lunch. The first two sessions will be held at the Horizons Center in Williamsburg, Massachusetts. The remainder of the program will be held at the beautiful and spacious Powell House, in Old Chatham, New York. (Just 8 miles from the Massachusetts border.)

September 22-24	**Rekindling the Flame**
October 20 -22	**Honoring the Dark**
December 15-17	**Returning the Light**
March 9-11	**Birthing the Wisdom Self**
May 4-6	**Balancing the Lover and the Warrior**
June 8-10	**Celebrating the Sacred Female Fire.**

★***Shuli Goodman*** M.A., co-director of The Mystery School, trained in both the healing and performing arts, has been celebrating women's spirituality since 1976. In 1981 she began practicing Vipassana meditation, and has since studied in the Native American and Tibetan Buddhist traditions. At the age of six she wanted to be a cantor, at twelve her interests turned to rock and roll, and jazz. These early dreams have transformed into her skill as a ritual artist and singer of sacred songs. She is the creator and producer of the *Inner Dance* and the *Mother Wit* audio cassettes tapes.

★***Diane Mariechild*** M.A., co-director of The Mystery School, a healer and teacher with over twenty years experience, has shared rituals, meditation, healing and visualization practices with thousands of women. Her first book *Mother Wit*, a basic primer for developing psychic skills, has sold over 100,000 copies. Her second book *Crystal Visions* and her latest *The Inner Dance*, are clear and compassionate guides for those on the path of spiritual awakening. Diane sat her first Vipassana retreat in 1976, and has also had intensive practice in both Tibetan Buddhist and Native American traditions.

★***Edwina Lee Tyler,*** is a composer, choreographer, percussionist, vocalist and dancer. A respected teacher of African dance and percussion, she is the former director of percussion studies at Dance Theatre of Harlem. Since 1979 Edwina has toured her women's African percussion and dance ensemble, A Piece of the World, throughout Europe and the United States. Her first solo cassette *DrumDrama* was released in 1988.

FACULTY FOR THE 1989-1990 EAST COAST MYSTERY SCHOOL

★***Bonnie Novakov-Lawlor,*** M.A., teacher of movement awareness, draws upon her experience as an accupressurist, counselor, and performer and teacher of Modern and South Indian Classical Dance. Integrating her exploration of yoga, psychic and spiritual studies, sensing and dynamic relaxation, she addresses the questions: How does the body want to move? How can we experience a deeper, more conscious, comfortable relationship to our bodies?

★***Roberta J. Stokes,*** one of the original members of A Piece of the World, is a dancer and vocalist. She has toured with the group and also performed as a guest artist in the Lincoln Center production of Jawole Willa Jo Zollar's, Life Dance Trilogy. She taught West African and Afro-Haitian dance at Project Reach Youth and received the Project's Special Recognition Award.

How to Apply:

★To make application for the nine month program please write a one to five page letter describing your spiritual journey. Indicate your family's religious tradition and whether they actively participate. Give a brief description of your spiritual development, such as profound dreams, mystical experiences, awareness of psychic abilities and personal insights. What are the most significant spiritual experiences of your life, both internal and external? How do you view the relationship between your spiritual and political selves? Do you have a meditation practice? Also tell us your dreams, aspirations and intentions for this program. Include with your letter a recent picture of yourself and birthdate. **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JULY 31ST.**

Tuition and Fees:

★Room, board, materials and teaching fees are included in the $1650 tuition fee. If you are interested in negotiating a sliding scale, from $1200 - $1650, please request a financial application. Limited partial scholarships are available based on financial needs, please request a scholarship application.

★Upon acceptance of application a deposit of $500.00 is required. Balance is due the first meeting in September, unless an alternative payment plan has been pre-arranged.

★Deposits will be partially refunded if notified of cancellation 40 days prior to first meeting. After that time, refunds will be contigent upon the participant's space being filled by another applicant. Once the school has begun, we will be unable to make any refunds. When your application has been processed you will receive location and directions to program, a book list, and materials to bring.

★**Keepers of the Flame** will be accessible by car to the greater New York, New England region. Air travel arrangements can be made through Bradley International Airport, and then through the Albany, New York Airport. Travel coordination will be arranged closer to September.

Full Circle Workshops,
413-625-9587, M-F, 10am–6pm

☐ YES, I would like to apply for the Keepers of the Flame Program
☐ YES, I have enclosed the letter you described above.
☐ I am unable to attend the nine month intensive, but please put me on your mailing list, and send me information on other workshops, books, and tapes.

Name:_____
Address:_____
City, State, Zip:_____
Phone:_____

Full Circle Workshops, 68 Conway St., Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 413-625-9587 M-F, 10–6

Full Circle Workshops is committed to nurturing & building diverse community. We celebrate & welcome women of all religious, racial, ethnic and sexual preference.

Full Circle Workshops,
68 Conway St.,
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

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